

REMARKS

Applicant is also submitting a Submission of Proposed Drawing Amendment For Approval By Examiner with amended Figures 17A and 57.

The applicants have amended claims 1, 2, 25, 28, 30, 60, 74 and 76. The applicants have cancelled claim 73 without prejudice. The applicants have not abandoned the subject matter of claim 73 and reserve the right to file a continuation application directed thereto.

Specifically, claim 1 has been amended to recite in part an insertion member having an imaging element incorporated at a tip thereof and having a bending section included in the insertion member which is motor-driven to bend;

Support for this amendment to claim 1 is found in the specification on page 20, lines 11-16, which discloses, with reference to FIG. 1, the following:

The CCU 3-39 processes a signal produced by an imaging device incorporated in the tip rigid part 2-2 of the insertion member 2-1 of the industrial endoscope 2. The motor-driven angling unit 3-37 drives the bending section 2-3 of the insertion member 2-1a to bend the bending section 2-3.

Claim 1 has also been amended to delete the limitation:

[an angling input unit a direction of bending in which the bending section bends;]

Claim 1 has also been amended to recite in part:

a drive unit including a driving source for driving a driving mechanism that drives the bending section;

Support for this amendment to claim 1 is found on page 54, lines 8-11, which disclose the following with respect to FIG. 17A:

The motor-driven angling unit 3-37 includes a driving source for driving a driving mechanism that drives the bending section 2-3 using motors.

Claim 1 has been amended also to replace the limitation “a stowage case in which the drum is rotatably stowed freely” with --the drum being rotatably arranged in a case--. This amendment and the remaining amendments to claim 1 are supported by the previous language of the claim.

Claim 2 has been amended to recite an endoscope system according to claim 1, comprising a light source unit for supplying illumination light to an illumination light transmitting means included in the insertion member.

Support for the amendment to claim 2 is found in the specification, page 54, line 25, to page 55, line 2, with reference to FIG. 17A, which discloses the following:

Converged light is propagated over the light guide 21, which runs through the insertion member 2-1, through the light guide connector 3-41.

Claim 25 has been amended to change its dependency from claim 1 to claim 30. Additionally, the other amendments to claim 25 have been made to improve claim form in view of the change in dependency from claim 1 to claim 30.

The amendment to claim 28 is also editorial in nature to improve claim form in view of the change in dependency of claim 25 from claim 1 to claim 30.

The applicants have amended claim 30 to change from an independent claim to a dependent claim depending from claim 1. The limitation “irrespective of whether the power supply is turned on or off” has been deleted since this limitation is recited by claim 28. Other changes to claim 30 are to improve claim form and are supported by the prior language of the claim.

The applicants have amended claim 60 to replace the phrase “first peripheral equipment required” with --second electrical equipment-- and to replace the phrase “second peripheral” with --first electrical--. Support for the amendment to claim 60 is found in the specification on page 40, lines 5-9, with reference to FIG. 12A, which disclose the following:

Over the cable 3-2, power and information including control signals and a video signal are transferred between electric circuits incorporated in equipment stowed in the drum and electric circuits incorporated in equipment located outside the drum.

The applicants have amended claims 74 and 76 to change their dependency from cancelled claim 73 to claim 1.

The applicants have also added new claim 81 which recites the following: “An endoscope system according to claim 1, wherein the drive unit, the signal processor, and the motor-driven angling control circuit rotate *together* with the drum.” Support for new claim 81 is found in the specification on page 108, lines 4-7, which discloses the following:

When the drum 43 rotates, the insertion member 42-1 of the industrial endoscope 42 whose end is fastened to the drum 43 is wound about the periphery of the drum 43, and thus stowed in the case.

Further support is found in FIGS. 14, 15B and 17A.

The applicants have also added new claim 82, which recites the following: "An endoscope system according to claim 2, wherein the light source unit rotates *together* with the drum."

Support for new claim 82 is also provided by FIG. 17A.

The applicants have also added new claim 83 which recites the following: --An endoscope system according to claim 1, wherein

a holding member to rotate the drum is exposed outside the case.--

Support for new claim 83 is found in FIGS. 6, 7A and 7B and the corresponding disclosure in the specification beginning on page 29, lines 5-12, which discloses the structure of a handle cover 3-1 having a handle 3-11 which is used to rotate the drum 3, fixed thereto, with reference to FIGS. 6, 7A and 7B. FIGS. 6, 7A and 7B indicate that the drum 3 is exposed outside the first case body 8-2. The limitations of claim 83 are directed to the fact that it is possible for a user to rotate the drum 3 from outside of the case 8-2.

Applicants submit that the foregoing amendments to claims 1, 2, 25, 28, 30, 60, 74 and 76 and the addition of new claims 81-83 do not introduce new matter into the application. Early and favorable consideration of the present application,

as amended herein, is respectfully requested.

Applicants submit that the foregoing amendments, to the specification, drawings and claims do not introduce new matter into the application. Early and favorable consideration of the present application, as amended herein, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anthony N. Fresco". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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